[redacted] Docket No. 23915-7316

#36/B
4/29/02

Certificate of Mailing/Transmission (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)):

[X] Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Non-Fee Amendment, Washington D.C. 20231.

[ ] Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d), I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being sent via facsimile on the date indicated below to the attention of Examiner _____ at Facsimile No. _____ at _____ a.m./p.m.

Dated: ~~1-7-02~~ 1-7-02 Name of Person Certifying: Pam Pascual

Printed Name: Pam Pascual

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	David J. Schanzlin, et al.	Assignee:	Addition Technology
Filing Date:	Herewith	Examiner:	TBA
Serial No.:	New Application	Group Art Unit:	TBA
Title:	Radial Intrastromal Corneal Insert		

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST TO DECLARE INTERFERENCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.607

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please cancel claims 1 to 5, 11 to 13, 22 to 35 and 41 to 49 and kindly amend the subject application by adding the following claims:

-- 68 ~~50~~. A method of altering a curvature of a cornea to correct a refractive error, comprising:

making an initial incision through a corneal epithelium or limbus;

introducing an intrastromal implant radially into the cornea through the initial incision and advancing the implant through a corneal stroma without entering a central optical zone, the implant being shaped to substantially correct the refractive error.

69 ~~51~~. The method of claim ~~50~~ 68, wherein the implant is an elongated member having a long axis which is advanced radially into the corneal stroma, below a corneal epithelium and Bowman's membrane, through the initial incision in the corneal epithelium or limbus, through which initial incision the long axis of the implant is introduced.

70 ~~52~~. The method of claim ~~51~~ 69, wherein after introduction through the initial incision, the implant is introduced radially into the incision without interrupting Bowman's membrane, and without entering a central optical zone of the cornea.